

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-30 (Canceled)

Claim 31 (Currently Amended) The method of distributing work through a cluster of workstations as claimed in claim ~~[[29]]~~ 34, wherein the step of dispatching includes:

determining one or more initiators at a second processing ~~workstation~~ node best suited to execute said one or more tasks; and

dispatching said one or more tasks to said best suited one or more initiators for execution.

Claims 32 – 33 (Canceled)

Claim 34 (Currently Amended) A The method of distributing work through a cluster of workstations for efficient distributed processing, said cluster having a plurality of workstations interconnected over a network, as claimed in claim 31, wherein the step of determining further includes the method comprising:

receiving a work request at a first processing node;

classifying, at said first processing node, the work request into one or more tasks;

assigning said one or more tasks to one or more router queues associated with respective router devices at said first processing node, a router capable of handling a specific task of a particular class of work;

dispatching said assigned one or more tasks for execution at a workstation at a second processing node having an execution module residing therein, the execution module at said second processing node comprising one or more initiators for instantiating one or more objects to execute a respective work task, said initiators dynamically registering with a router to indicate readiness to accept work for processing, said objects instantiated by an initiator with a generic class name but having a different implementation specific to a node in which said initiator resides to enable use of system specific resources and enable a single version of an application to

run on each node; and,

upon completion of said respective work tasks, each said one or more initiators providing to said respective router the completed work task at said first processing node and providing system specific statistics data associated with said initiator; and,

computing performance statistics of a router queue and said one or more initiators, a performance statistic including a total response time from dispatch of a work task from that router queue to an initiator, and the receipt of the completed work task at the router queue from that initiator, said total response time used to determine the performance of an initiator and categorize the initiator performance for determining said one or more initiators best suited to execute said one or more tasks; and,

queuing ready initiators at a respective router device based on said categorized initiator performance, wherein said best performing initiators are given priority for receiving new tasks from a respective router.

Claim 35 - 38 (Canceled)